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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

PCT/IB2003/004121



Applicant's or agent's file reference P-14-431-PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/IB2003/004121	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 septembre 2003 (19.09.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 27 septembre 2002 (27.09.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04N 7/167, 5/00		
Applicant NAGRAVISION SA		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 4 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 13 April 2004 (13.04.2004)	Date of completion of this report 13 September 2004 (13.09.2004)
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International application No.
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I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

☐ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-15, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the claims, Nos. _____, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. 1-12, filed with the letter of 29 July 2004 (29.07.2004),
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/1, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

This report makes reference to the following document:

D1: 'FUNCTIONAL MODEL OF A CONDITIONAL ACCESS SYSTEM',
EBU REVIEW - TECHNICAL, EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION,
BRUSSELS, BE, No. 266, 21 December 1995 (1995-12-
21), pages 64-77, XP000559450, ISSN: 0251-0936

Document D1 describes (the references in parentheses are to that document) a conditional access data decrypting system which comprises (see figure 6):

- a broadcasting centre (MUX, Scrambler, Modulator) arranged to broadcast data (picture, sound, data) encrypted with a control word (cw);
- an administration centre (Subscriber Authorisation System, Encrypter) arranged to broadcast personal messages (ECM, EMM) regarding the administration of the access means to the encrypted data;
- an operating device (DEMUX) for making said encrypted data utilisable; and
- a decoder to decrypt the encrypted data, arranged between the broadcasting centre and the operating device, and comprising physically distinct modules:
 - a module (Descrambler) connected to the operating

device for receiving and decrypting the encrypted data; and

- an administration module (Conditional Access subsystem) for managing access rights to said data and arranged to communicate with the receiving module.

Moreover, the administration module comprises a security module (Security processor) with a unique identification number (see page 75, "customer's ID card", in the middle of the left-hand column) and data (Keys) for protecting the link between the administration centre and the security module. The security module is designed to verify the content of the personal messages and to allow or block decryption of the control word(s) depending on the content of the personal messages (see page 75, left-hand column, and notes 1 and 2 in figure 6). The receiving module receives encrypted data from the broadcasting centre via a first communication link (Tx, Rx, demodulator) and the administration module receives personal messages from the administration centre via a second communication link (EMM over the telephone line).

Consequently, the subject matter of claim 1 differs from D1 in that the administration module can be linked to multiple administration centres.

Document D1 mentions the use of multiple administration centres (SAS I and J in figure 3) but the administration module associated with a user can only communicate with a single administration centre (see page 67, top of left-hand column).

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

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The present invention can therefore be considered to address the problem of making the system of D1 more flexible.

None of the available documents suggests an administration module that can be linked to multiple administration centres.

The solution to this problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application, is therefore considered to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

Claims 2-12 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.